

Response to Restriction Requirement**Page 8 of 9**

Applicants: Chung Chan et al.

Serial No.: 10/735,149

Filed: December 12, 2003

For: IL-21 PRODUCTION IN PROKARYOTIC HOSTS

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 will be pending in the case. Claims 7-21 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the restriction requirement. Applicants expressly reserve the right pursue the subject matter of the withdrawn and canceled claims in another related application.

The Office Action sets forth a restriction requirement under 35 USC §121. Applicants were requested to elect one of four designated groups as briefly noted below:

I. Claims 1-6 and 22, drawn to an expression vector for producing IL-21 protein, a host cell containing the vector, and a method for producing IL-21 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 69.52.

II. Claims 7-13 and 20, drawn to a method for producing IL-21 protein by fed batch fermentation, classified in class 435, subclass 71.2.

III. Claims 14-20, drawn to a method for isolating IL-21 protein, classified in class 530, subclass 412.

IV. Claim 21, drawn to a composition comprising the IL-21 protein of SEQ ID NO:28, classified in class 424, subclass 85.2

In response to the Requirement for Restriction Election, Applicants elect Group I, drawn to an expression vector for producing IL-21 protein, a host cell containing the vector, and a method for producing IL-21 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 69.52.

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Early consideration and allowance of the pending claims under examination are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of the above-identified patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6672.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures:

Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
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